

## Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 161910

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: MORNING SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT REPORTS

### 1. PORTUGAL: AFM ISSUES PLAN FOR POLITICAL REORGANIZATION

EMBASSY LISBON REPORTS THAT THE ARMED FORCES MOVEMENT HAS ISSUED ITS PLAN FOR RESTRUCTURING THE POLITICAL SYSTEM TO ESTABLISH DIRECT LINKS BETWEEN IT AND PEOPLE. INSTEAD OF CHOOSING A LEFTIST-BACKED MODEL, THE AFM HAS OPTED FOR:

--A STRUCTURE OF NEIGHBORHOOD COMMITTEES AND WORKERS' COMMISSIONS AT THE LOCAL LEVEL; AND

--SERIES OF "POPULAR ASSEMBLIES" FROM THE LOCAL TO THE NATIONAL LEVEL.

IF IMPLEMENTED, THE PLAN WILL EFFECTIVELY CUT THE GROUND FROM UNDER THE CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY AND BYPASS THE POLITICAL PARTIES. THE AFM APPARENTLY AIMS FOR A UNITARY POLITICAL ORGANIZATION WHICH WILL ULTIMATELY ABSORB THE PARTIES.

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EMBASSY COMMENT: THE AFM APPEARS TO BE SEEKING A STRUCTURE WHICH IT CAN CONTROL DIRECTLY, AND FOR THE FIRST TIME LOCAL AND REGIONAL MILITARY COMMANDERS WILL HAVE A FORMAL ROLE IN THE POLITICAL PROCESS. PERHAPS EVEN MORE SIGNIFICANT IS THE

FACT THAT THE AFM CHOSE NEITHER THE COMMUNIST NOR THE FAR-LEFT PROPOSALS BUT RATHER DEvised ITS OWN WAY TO ORGANIZE POLITICAL ACTION. (CONFIDENTIAL) LISBON 3875, 7/9.

## 2. ASSESSMENT OF THE CURRENT ITALIAN POLITICAL SITUATION

AS THE LEADERSHIP STRUGGLE CONTINUES WITHIN THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY (DC), EMBASSY ROME REPORTS THAT PRIME MINISTER MORO HAS OPENED A SERIES OF CONSULTATIONS WITH CENTER-LEFT LEADERS TO DEVELOP A PROGRAM CAPABLE OF KEEPING HIS PARLIAMENTARY MAJORITY TOGETHER OVER THE NEAR TERM. MEANWHILE, THE SOCIALISTS:

--ARE STANDING PAT ON THE NATIONAL LEVEL UNTIL THE RESULTS OF THE JULY 19 DC NATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING ARE KNOWN;

--ARE MOVING QUICKLY TO FORM LOCAL ADMINISTRATIONS BASED ON THE WIDEST POSSIBLE MAJORITIES, INCLUDING ALLIANCES WITH THE COMMUNISTS.

EMBASSY COMMENT: THE SOCIALISTS HAVE NO INTEREST IN SEEING THE MORO GOVERNMENT GO UNDER JUST YET. THE THICKEST MINE-FIELDS THROUGH WHICH MORO MUST NOW PASS ARE IN DC TERRITORY, WHERE THE EFFORT TO OUST FANFANI MAY PROVOKE EXPLOSIONS WHICH COULD BRING DOWN THE GOVERNMENT. (CONFIDENTIAL) ROME 9891, 7/9.

## 3. INDIAN PARLIAMENT TO CONVENE

THE INDIAN PRESIDENT HAS ANNOUNCED THAT PARLIAMENT WILL BE CONVOKED ON JULY 21 FOR ONE WEEK. THE GOVERNMENT IS APPARENTLY SEEKING RATIFICATION OF THE STATE OF EMERGENCY, WHICH EMBASSY NEW DELHI SOURCES BELIEVE WILL BE EASILY OBTAINED. THE GOVERNMENT ALSO ISSUED NEW RESTRICTIONS ON PUBLIC ADMIS-CONFIDENTIAL

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SION TO THE PARLIAMENT, WHICH THE EMBASSY SEES AS A MOVE TO CONTROL DISSEMINATION OF NEWS ON THE SESSION'S ACTIVITIES. (CONFIDENTIAL) NEW DELHI 9188, 7/9. INGERSOLL

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MORNING SUMMARY, POLITICAL SITUATION, POLITICAL PARTIES, CENTRAL LEGISLATURE  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 10 JUL 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** KelleyW0  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** O: SWIHART  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Office:** ORIGIN SSO  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** KelleyW0  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 04 JUN 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <04 JUN 2003 by ifshinsr>; APPROVED <15 OCT 2003 by KelleyW0>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
06 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** MORNING SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT REPORTS  
**TAGS:** PFOR, PGOV, PINT, PO, IT, IN  
**To:** NSA MULTIPLE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006